

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 24 are pending. Claims 1 – 24 are allowed. The specification has been amended to correct the issue date of the Early patent referenced on page 3 of the patent application. No new matter has been added.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendment set forth herein, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on June 7, 2004.



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June 7, 2004

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,



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